

THE CIMARRON NEWS AND PRESS

NOTE—The type used in this heading is from the old plant of the Cimarron News and Press and was used for a heading for the paper in the seventies.

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[CIMARRON, NEW MEXICO, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1907

NO. 35

Will be Guest of Colfax County

Governor Curry will Visit Raton on Next Saturday and Sunday. Reception will be Held in Coliseum Saturday Night

From the Raton Range.

Saturday and Sunday will be high days for Raton and Colfax county. George Curry—a Rough Rider and captain of a troop in the Spanish-American war—a hero of San Juan Hill—the distinguished governor of the Island of Samar—the appointed governor of the Commonwealth of New Mexico—will be the guest of the city. Raton will not be slow to seize this opportunity of showing the high officials of the territory her capacity to recognize those to whom her honors are due.

Governor Curry will be no stranger in our midst. This city, when in its infancy, was the home of our distinguished visitor. The old citizens of Raton will use the opportunity to rehearse the incidents and deeds of daring that were common to the pioneer in those remote days of Raton. Already, there are being passed around the stories of the early days—those days when no one dreamed that George Curry would be the governor of this great territory.

Raton will do her best. She will throw her doors wide open. The invitation is to every man of every political faith, of every creed, of every nationality. Whatever be our differences—we shall throw the city wide in her cordial welcome to him who has been chosen to guide the destinies of the country of which we are a part.

The governor and his party will arrive, presumably, on No. 4, Saturday morning. They will leave, by train or auto, for Yankee and Johnson

Mesa, returning to Raton about the middle of the afternoon.

It is the intention of the committee to turn the governor over to his old friends in the city Saturday afternoon. He will probably put in the time among the business places.

Saturday evening, in the Coliseum, there will be a rousing reception given to the visitors. This is in the nature of a huge reception to which everybody, women as well as men, are given cordial invitation.

It is now a possibility that there will also be a reception given by the Commercial club in addition to the above in order that the business men and the governor may come into more personal touch.

Sunday morning at 7 o'clock a special train will be run over the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific, will carry the party to Cimarron, Koehler, Dawson, Ute Park and Van Houten.

In the governor's party will be Attorney General A. B. Fall, Chief Justice W. J. Mills, Hon. W. A. Hawkins, of El Paso, Texas.

Will Unveil McKinley Monument.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 29.—H. H. Butler, chairman of the McKinley Monument commission, has announced the program for the dedication of the marble obelisk in Niagara square on September 5.

Civil, military, political and judicial honors will be paid to the martyred president and an international character will be given to the occasion by the presence of a thousand Canadian troops.

VERDICT OF TERRITORIES ON STATEHOOD IS FINAL

Oyster Bay, August 30.—By authority of President Roosevelt James R. Garfield, secretary of the interior, announced today that no other effort will be made by the administration towards bringing up again in congress the question of joint statehood for Arizona and New Mexico. The verdict of the people recently expressed in these territories, will be accepted by the president as final, Garfield says.

AN AMUSING STORY OF THE EARLY DAYS

George Curry, now Governor of the Territory of New Mexico was Once Declared Dead by a Colorado Coroner's Jury.

That George Curry, territorial governor of New Mexico, was once officially declared dead by a coroner's jury of Las Animas county, is an interesting bit of history that has just come to light through exchange of letters between Town Marshal George Tittsworth, of Segundo, and the new governor of the territory.

Early in the eighties, Mr. Tittsworth was a justice of the peace and was called upon to hold an inquest over the body of an unknown man found on the plains thirty miles east of this city. A jury of cowpunchers was summoned and an investigation was held. Cards in the pockets of a vest on the remains caused the jury to return a verdict that "George Curry" came to his death from sunstroke. Some baggage checks were also found bearing the name of the Trinidad hotel. Several weeks later Mr. Tittsworth, being in Trinidad and remembering about the baggage checks, called at the Trinidad hotel, placed the proceedings of the inquest before the hotel clerk and asked him if he knew anything of the man. As the clerk glanced over the record a look of surprise deepened on his face and finally he ejaculated, "That's me; I am George Curry." In view of the startling statement it was decided to exhume the body and hold another inquest. A Mr. Frankel was then county coroner and further investigation revealed that the dead man was John Lynn, of Cleveland.

At the time Mr. Curry explained that he was living in Raton at the time of the man's death and had come over to Trinidad to play baseball. He and Lynn had roomed together at the hotel and in the morning the eastern man had carried off Curry's waistcoat by mistake. During the interim between the first inquest and the discovery of the mistake in the name, Mr. Curry had accepted a position as clerk in the local hotel.

The following letters are self explanatory:

"Segundo, Colo., Aug. 21, '07.
"Hon. George Curry, Gov. Territory of New Mexico.

"Dear Sir:—
"Back in the eighties I held an inquest over a corpse supposed to have been one George Curry. In pocket

of coat found on the corpse there were letters of recommendation, also papers showing honorable discharge from the United States service. This happened in Las Animas county, Colorado, east of Trinidad about 30 miles. We afterwards found out that the name of the victim was John Lynn, from Cleveland, Ohio. Death caused by sunstroke.

"I am writing to ask if you are the George Curry we have reference to. If you are the man, allow me to congratulate you upon becoming governor of two territories since this inquest was held.

"It seems that the report of your death, if you were the man, was greatly exaggerated."
"I had learned since that George Curry had been killed in some manner.

"If you can spare the time it would be a great favor if you would answer this letter at your earliest convenience, obliging.

"Yours very truly,
"GEO. W. TITTSWORTH,
"Marshal."

Governor Curry promptly answered: "Department of the Interior, Territory of New Mexico, Office of the Executive.

"Santa Fe, Aug. 24, 1907.

"Dear Sir:—

"The corpse you refer to was undoubtedly supposed to be myself, as at that time I lived in Raton and went to Trinidad to play baseball. My recollection is that a man named Lynn and myself occupied the same room, and that when we got up the next morning he put on my vest, which contained some letters in its inside pocket. Therefore I had the pleasure of reading an account of my own death after my return home. An incident of this nature happened in the Philippines when I was governor of one of the provinces there. While in a fight I became cut off from my men and was missing for several days, and it was reported that I had been killed, but turned up all right.

"Will be pleased to hear from you at any time, and with kind regards, I remain,

"Respectfully yours,

"GEORGE CURRY."

"George Tittsworth, Esq., Segundo, Colorado."—Trinidad Advertiser.

Taft Forces Are Already Lining Up

A Columbus, Ohio, dispatch to the Albuquerque Journal, says: After a conference with Secretary Garfield, who has just stopped here on his return from an official visit throughout the west, regarding the sentiment among the republicans there toward Secretary Taft as a candidate for the presidency, the friends of Secretary Taft here are prepared to claim that the chances for the nomination of Mr. Taft are much better now than the chances for the nomination of McKinley were at the same stage of his presidential boom, and Mr. McKinley was an easy winner in the convention.

Basing their claims on these reports, the friends of Secretary Taft are beginning to count the delegates as certainly theirs, as follows:

Washington, 10 votes; Oregon, 8 votes; California, 20 votes; Nevada, 6 votes; Colorado, 10 votes; Arizona, 6 votes; New Mexico, 6 votes; Utah, 6 votes; Idaho, 6 votes; Kansas, 20 votes; Missouri, 36 votes; Oklahoma, 14 votes; Nebraska, 16 votes; Iowa, 26 votes; South Dakota, 8 votes; North Dakota, 8 votes; Minnesota, 22 votes. These states foot up 240 votes, of which the Taft men are quite confident.

Big Excursion to Ute Park Monday

Odd Fellows and their Friends Celebrate with the Biggest Event of the Kind Ever Held in the Southwest

From the Raton Range.

Monday was a red letter day for the Odd Fellows and all those who wanted to take a day off in a picnic at Ute Park.

This lodge had arrangements for a very low rate over the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific. As a result about 600 tickets were sold.

It was a scene of the wildest confusion and fun when the five passenger coaches and three cabooses pulled out promptly at 7:10. Standing room was at a premium in all the cars and sitting space on the hurricane deck of the cabooses were quickly taken.

Throughout the day the crowds were orderly, there being no drunkenness and swearing. This speaks well when the immense crowd is taken into consideration.

On reaching Cimarron about fifty more joined the happy crowd. Ute Park was reached at 10:30. Along the road, and especially in the vicinity where the picnic was held, the scenery cannot be surpassed. Ute Park is the one ideal spot for a day's outing—the time and place where cares are all forgotten.

Individual spreads were made here and there in the park. Around these miniature camps families and friends gathered and had the time of their lives.

After dinner the foot races and other athletic sports were pulled off in due and ancient form. It is understood that Jud Smith and Dave Peden won fresh laurels in the race where three legs were used. The tug-of-war game was on the schedule, but the victories

were so many that it was impossible to get the names that belong on the roll of fame.

Only a light rain broke into the fun—and that about 3 o'clock. The trip back was begun at 5:30. The company added another coach at Cimarron, which relieved the tired people very greatly. Nothing happened except a somewhat narrow escape on the return trip. Between Ute Park and Cimarron a huge boulder, loosened by excessive rains, had rolled down upon the track. Had the huge rock fallen on a curve a serious wreck might have been added to the otherwise happy events of the day. The excursionists arrived safe and sound, but tired, in Raton at 9:30.

Telegraphers' Strike Still On.

A late dispatch from New York declares that prospects of a mutually satisfactory settlement of the telegraph strike appear to be no more promising than a week ago.

Officials of the Western Union reiterated their statement that they will not treat with labor organizations under any circumstances.

The strike leaders declare that none of their hopes is based upon arbitration. They have accepted as final the expressions of the company officials, they say, and are prepared to prolong the strike until the next session of congress, if necessary.

"We are going to keep up the struggle until the business interests of the country force congress to act," said President Small of the Telegraphers' union today. "We will be able to hang out until the next session of congress. I do not believe the telegraph companies can hold out much longer."

Rail Turned and Train was Ditched

Particulars of the Smash-up which Involved Santa Fe Fast Mail No. 9 Last Friday. Entire Train was Badly Wrecked

The Santa Fe comes easily into the list of transcontinental roads proverbial for their long wreck lists. While that is true this road holds the record for being lucky because of the small number of fatalities credited to them. This was especially true of the ill-fated No. 9 that piled in the ditch thirty-five miles east of Las Vegas Friday night at 8 o'clock. Engineer Slements and Conductor Gatchell both of Las Vegas, were in charge of the train. The passenger was late and to make up time was running at a high rate of speed. When they struck a curve the engine kept on its way but the cars took their course for the open prairie and piled in confusion some distance from the track. The mishap it is said was due to the weakening of the track by the recent rains. Later examinations show the miracle was that scores were not killed. While the softened roadbed caused the wreck

it also helped to save the lives of the passengers. The rail evidently just simply turned over and rolled from beneath the car wheels. The engine guided by its front trucks, which stuck to the rails till the last followed the center of the road bed which was of rock ballast. When the engine finally came to a stop, some of its wheels rested on rails that had overturned. The cars had followed the roadbed for quite a distance, until the engine broke loose, then unhampered, they struck a southeasterly course and carried by their momentum, skidded over the wet ground until the foremost car was forty feet from the track. They carried some of the rails with them quite a distance. When finally the cars came to a stop, they turned over. To the fact that they remained upright while moving may be attributed to the miraculous escape of the passengers. Due to this, it is a marvel that not more than two or three were injured, and that slightly.

as well as the better life. He is full of good works.

Dr. Frank P. Gaines left Friday for his home in Raton after a very successful three weeks' here among the jumping and aching bicusps. He was successful, in an imminent degree in stilling and quieting them, both with and without using the ever dreaded pull. Doctor Gaines leaves behind him a host of warm and admiring friends who only hope he may see his way clear to return to his practice here at an early date.

James O. Rodgers, manager of the Crocker Mercantile company, spent Sunday and Monday in Raton.

Public Schools Of New Mexico

Gratifying evidence of the Prosperity and Advancement of the Schools is Shown by Recent Report of Superintendent

During the past fifteen years the public schools of New Mexico have acquired new buildings approximating \$1,000,000 according to a report just compiled by Professor J. E. Clark, superintendent of public instruction which will be incorporated in the report of Governor Curry to the department of the interior. This is gratifying evidence in itself of the advance being made along educational lines in the sunshine territory.

Other school statistics furnished by Mr. Clark show the enrollment in the public schools for the term 1906-7 was 47,000, or 1,000 more than in the scholastic year 1905-6. Nine hundred and twenty-three teachers were employed, representing an increase of twenty-three over the previous year. The school census of 1907 shows a total of 78,000 children in the territory of school age, as against 76,000 in 1906. Many of these children are receiving their education in sectarian

schools. This is particularly true of Catholics. In a parochial school in this city embracing the primary and grammar grades and exclusively for girls, 200 or more pupils are annually enrolled.

Mr. Clark's report shows a balance on hand in the school fund of \$200,171. The receipts for the fiscal year, including the balance on hand from the previous year amounted to \$684,638, while the expenditures for the period aggregated \$484,567. The total poll tax collected in 1906 amounted to \$25,000. Revenue derived from this source will be much larger this year, as more vigorous efforts have been made to collect money due to poll tax. The total bonded indebtedness of the public schools of the territory represents \$439,650. Special taxes of from three mills up have been levied in the various school districts to meet the interest and pay part of the principal.

SOLD STOCK IN MYTHICAL LOST MEXICAN GOLD MINE.

Prominent Denver, Boulder and Silver City Promoters Convicted of Fraud.

The jury in the Denver federal court brought in a verdict August 28th in the Lost Bullion Mines cases, finding all of the defendants guilty under one count and all guilty but two under two counts. The defendants are C. L. Blackman, A. G. Kneables, R. C. Hunt, Arthur Levan, D. H. Laurant, D. C. Pinkus, and Edward Sebben, of Denver; W. B. Cameron, of Boulder, and Geo. S. Dubois and Lee Dubois, of Silver

City, N. M. They were all found guilty of using the mails for fraudulent purposes and Pinkus and Hunt were found guilty of conspiring to defraud by the use of the mails.

The case has been on trial for some time. The company recently advertised that it owned a lost mine in Mexico. It sent a man down to Mexico who wrote quite a prospectus, and on the strength of this a great deal of stock was sold. The government claimed that the mine was nothing but an abandoned cave and that it had no property value whatever and that the men in the company knew this to be the case. Some of the men are millionaires. They were given until September 12 to apply for a new trial.